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Looney Ricks Kiss Architects Receives Multiple Honors from the National Best in American Living Awards

MEMPHIS, TN (January 27, 2010) – In recognition of the nation's best new housing designs, Looney Ricks Kiss received five awards from the Best in American Living Awards (BALA) presented at the International Builders' Show in Las Vegas.

LRK was honored with the following awards:

- ◆ Platinum Award/ Best One-of-a-Kind Custom Home 6,501 sq. ft. and over for a private residence in Memphis, TN
- ◆ Gold Award/Best One-of-a-Kind Custom Home 4,001 to 6,500 sq. ft. for a private residence in Eads, TN
- ◆ Platinum Award/ Best Rental Development five stories and over for the Arthouse at Keller Town Center in Keller, TX
- ◆ Gold Award/Best High-Rise Multifamily six stories and over for the Paramount on Lake Eola in Orlando, FL
- ◆ Best in the South Central Region for the Arthouse at Keller Town Center in Keller, TX.

Sponsored by *Professional Builder* magazine and the National Association of Home Builders, BALA showcases projects that demonstrate design excellence, succeed in the marketplace and exemplify the "Best in American Living." The competition is now in its 26th year. A total of 67 award winners in 37 categories were chosen. The 2009 BALA competition's panel of 6 judges was composed of builders, architects, interior designers and *Professional Builder* editors.

This latest recognition brings the firm's total BALA awards to 66 including 3 Homes / Projects of the Year and at last year's annual International Builders' Show Carson Looney was inducted as the first member into the Best in American Living Award Hall of Fame.

"In these trying times it's nice to be recognized, along with our clients and contractors, for both the design of single family and multifamily / mixed-use projects but also for their success in the marketplace," said Carson Looney, Principal at Looney Ricks Kiss.

"We are honored and excited to have been recognized by the Best in American Living Awards for 2009," said Frank Ricks, Principal at Looney Ricks Kiss. "Residential architecture is no longer just about providing a set of plans. We look at it as true problem-solving: dealing with lifestyle concerns, materials, products, the cost/value equation, energy usage, and health issues."

Winners are featured in the February issue of *Professional Builder* magazine. For more information on the 2009 winners, visit www.probuilder.com/BALA.

Professional Builder is a 72-year old business publication that has earned a reputation as an invaluable resource for home builders looking for business information, product news and trend data. For additional information, go to www.probuilder.com or www.housingzone.com.

The National Association of Home Builders is a Washington, D.C.- based trade association representing more than 200,000 members. NAHB is affiliated with more than 800 state and local home-builder associations around the country. For additional information on the winners, go to www.probuilder.com/bala or www.nahb.com.

About Looney Ricks Kiss

Based in Memphis, TN, Looney Ricks Kiss Architects has offices in Memphis and Nashville, TN; Princeton, NJ; Celebration, FL; Dallas and Houston, TX and Baton Rouge, LA. The firm consists of professional architects, designers, planners and support staff. Looney Ricks Kiss has been recognized in the industry as one of the most respected full-service architecture, interiors, and planning and urban design firms in the United States. www.lrk.com

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